

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/639,052

Examiner

Tadesse Hailu

Applicant(s)

KATANO, SEIICHI

Art Unit

2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the AMEDMENT submitted on February 26, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-15, 17-35, 37-55, 57-75 and 77-80.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 10/639,052
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

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Examiner's Amendment

1. The Office Action is in response to the AMENDMENT submitted on February 26, 2007.
2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
3. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Daniel D Ledesma on May 3, 2007.

The application has been amended as follows: **In the claims:**

In claim 17, line 1, REPLACE "16" WITH -12—

In claim 37, line 2, REPLACE "36" WITH -32—

In claim 57, line 1, REPLACE "56" WITH -52—

In claim 77, line 1, REPLACE "76" WITH -72—

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

4. The pending Claims 1-15, 17-35, 37-55, 57-75, and 77-80 are allowed.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The Examiner has carefully considered all the claims.

The present invention:

The present invention is relates to configuring a graphical user interface on a multifunction peripheral. The claimed invention is directed to methods, apparatuses

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and also to one or more computer readable storage media for customizing one or more user interfaces.

Representative claim 1:

1. A method for customizing one or more user interfaces, comprising:
 - transmitting user interface specification data to one or more multifunction peripherals,
 - wherein user interface specification data defines a desired display and operation behavior for the one or more user interfaces, and wherein each of the one or more user interfaces is displayed on one of the one or more multifunction peripherals;
 - maintaining scheduling data that defines a start time that indicates a time to update each of the one or more user interfaces to reflect the user interface specification data;
 - determining the current time; and
 - if the current time is at least as recent as the start time, then updating the use interface displayed on the one or more multifunction peripherals to reflect the user interface specification data.

Representative claim 12:

12. A method for customizing one or more user interfaces, comprising:
 - transmitting user interface specification data that defines a desired display and operation behavior for the one or more user interfaces to one or more multifunction peripherals, wherein each of the one or more user interfaces is displayed on one of the one or more multifunction peripherals;
 - transmitting use limit data that defines a number of uses to apply the user interface specification data to the one or more user interfaces to the one or more multifunction peripherals; and
 - at the one or more multifunction peripherals, updating the one or more user interfaces

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from a first version to a second version in response to processing the user interface specification data, wherein the first version may be different for each of the one or more user interfaces, and wherein the second version reflects the user interface specification data.

Iwase et al. ("Iwase") – Prior art of record

Iwase relates to a multi functional peripheral using a portable telephone (a portable network terminal). Iwase disclose that the multi functional peripheral of his invention in which various settings can be made comprises a first interface for transmitting/receiving information with respect to a portable device having user information; and a control section for acquiring the user information from the portable device via the first interface, acquiring setting information corresponding to the user indicated by the user information from a server having setting information stored therein for each user via the portable device, and making settings by use of the acquired setting information.

Iwase substantially describes the "transmitting" limitation of claims 1 and 12 as described in the last Office action. Iwase, however fails to teach "maintaining scheduling data that defines a start time that indicates a time to update each of the one or more user interfaces to reflect the user interface specification data; determining the current time; and if the current time is at least as recent as the start time, then updating the user interface displayed on the one or more multifunction peripherals to reflect the user interface specification data." as recited in the above claim 1. Independent Claims 21, 41, and 61 include the same features discussed above in Claim 1.

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Iwase also fails to teach “at the one or more multifunction peripherals, updating the one or more user interfaces from a first version to a second version in response to processing the user interface specification data, wherein the first version may be different for each of the one or more user interfaces, and wherein the second version reflects the user interface specification data.” as recited in claim 12. Independent Claims 32, 52 and 72 include the same features discussed above in claim 12.

Horiyama et al. ("Horiyama") – Prior art of record

Horiyama is related to centrally and integrally managing the use of peripherals in a wide range or across a plurality of bases. Horiyama substantially discloses “maintaining scheduling data that defines a start time that indicates a time to update each of the one or more user interfaces to reflect the user interface specification data;” that is, as describes in paragraph [126], Horiyama substantially describes a schedule setting screen (a GUI) including a periodic update processing means for updating the schedule setting, for example. Horiyama, however fails to teach the above remaining limitations of representative claims 1 and 12.

Thus, Iwase in view of Horiyama fails to teach “determining the current time; and if the current time is at least as recent as the start time, then updating the user interface displayed on the one or more multifunction peripherals to reflect the user interface specification data” as recited in claims 1, 21, 41 and 61; and “at the one or more multifunction peripherals, updating the one or more user interfaces from a first version to a second version in response to processing the user interface specification data, wherein the first version may be different for each of the one or more user interfaces,

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and wherein the second version reflects the user interface specification data" as recited in claims 12, 32, 52 and 72. Therefore, all the pending claims are allowable over the prior art of records.

CONCLUSION

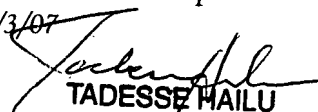
6. comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

7. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the patent application information retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published application may be obtained from either Private –PAIR or Public-PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private-PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, please see pair-direct.uspto.gov web site. Should you have questions regarding access to the PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Tadesse Hailu, whose telephone number is (571) 272-4051. The Examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 10:30 – 7:00 ET. If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca, can be reached at (571) 272-4048.

Examiner Tadesse Hailu
Art Unit 2173 – Operator Interface

5/3/07


TADESSE HAILU
PRIMARY EXAMINER